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Vale District Office

News Release
For Immediate Release
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Airstrip Recreation Site Closed by Mudslide

BAKER CITY, OREGON –On the evening of September 4, 2007, large rain filled clouds settled over a portion of the Hells Canyon Recreation Sites. Bordered by Bob Creek Recreation Site and Copper Creek Recreation Site, the resulting downpour washed mud, rock and debris down from the hillsides above, blocking culverts, sending mud cascading through the Airstrip Recreation Site and over the county road.

The resulting damage has made it necessary for the Baker City Field Office to close the Airstrip Recreation Site until further notice. “It will take time for us to get this mess cleaned up” stated Dave Draheim, Vale District Recreation Planner. “The mudslide impacted 9 of the 15 campsites at Airstrip Recreation Site.”

The rains and resulting mudslides also affected culverts and cross-drains on the county road in 13 different locations making the road impassable beyond Bob Creek Campground. The Baker County Sheriff’s department has temporarily closed the county road until repairs and debris can be removed.

For additional information on the temporary closure of the Airstrip Recreation Site, contact Kevin McCoy in the Baker Field Office at 541-523-1295

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